

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A method of making and implanting an allograft lumbar ~~or thoracic~~ spine implant comprising:

cutting a portion of the calcaneus from a donor in a size and shape for insertion between two vertebral bodies, wherein a plurality of cross sections are cut substantially perpendicular to the long axis and from a central portion of the calcaneus, wherein each cross section comprises a thin layer of cortical calcaneus bone and a core of cancellous calcaneus bone; and

cutting the portion to provide two or more subsections to provide an implant for use in a transforaminal lumbar interbody fusion or posterior interbody lumbar fusion, each implant including a thin layer of cortical calcaneus bone formed integral and partially surrounding a core of cancellous calcaneus bone; and

placing the implant in the lumbar spine.

Claims 27-30 (cancelled)

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant has a weight bearing capacity of at least about 500 pounds.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant has a weight bearing capacity of at least about 1000 pounds.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 60% cancellous bone by volume.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 80% cancellous bone by volume.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 95% cancellous bone by volume.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant is comprised of at least about 98% cancellous bone by volume.

Claim 37 (cancelled)

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the implant has a thickness between about 0.5 centimeters and 5 centimeters.